TREASURY DEPARTMENT

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FOR RELEASE AT NOON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1969

MARY T. BROOKS TAKES OATH OF OFFICE AS
TWENTY-EIGHTH DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT

Mrs. Mary T. Brooks of Carey, Idaho, took the oath of office today as the 28th Director of the Bureau of the Mint in a noon ceremony at the Treasury Department. Secretary of the Treasury David M. Kennedy administered the oath of office.

Secretary Kennedy commented that "Mrs. Brooks' appointment by President Nixon was further evidence that the President is naming women to high government positions in which they are deeply concerned with the economy of our nation. As Director of the Mint, Mrs. Brooks will be responsible for an adequate supply of coinage for the daily commerce of our continually growing economy, a position which will bring her in close contact with our banks, industry and individuals. Mrs. Brooks' work with the women of this nation will be particularly beneficial in carrying out her new responsibilities of this important position."

Mrs. Brooks has been Assistant Chairman of the Republican National Committee since 1965. Following the death of her husband, Senator C. Wayland Brooks of Illinois in 1957, Mrs. Brooks became a member of the Republican National Committee and in 1960 was named Vice Chairman of the Committee. Since 1964, Mrs. Brooks has also served as a Senator in the Idaho Legislature from Blaine County, Idaho. In her third term in the State Senate, she was GOP Caucus Chairman, and Chairman of the State Affairs Committee.

Administrative Assistant to her father, United States Senator John Thomas of Idaho, prior to his death in 1945, Mrs. Brooks also worked in the family banking chain over the years before the chain was sold to the First Security Corporation. She has managed and developed one of the largest and most successful sheep and cattle ranches in Southern Idaho, the Flat Top Livestock Company.

Mrs. Brooks was born in Colby, Kansas and raised in Gooding, Idaho. She attended Mills College in California and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Idaho. Her present and past memberships in civic, social and political organizations include: Kappa Kappa Gamma, AAUW, American Legion Auxiliary, Board of the Idaho Youth Ranch, Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, Vice Chairman of her Red Cross District, Mental Health Board, Immigrant Service League, Illinois Children's Home and Aid, Light House of the Blind, Arden Shore Association, and Board of Illinois Federation of Republican Women.

As Director of the Mint, whose office is under the direction of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Eugene T. Rossides, Mrs. Brooks is responsible for the direction of the largest and most modern government coin-producing facilities in the world. These include mints in Philadelphia and Denver and Assay Offices in New York and San Francisco. In addition, she is responsible for the operation of our gold depository at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and silver depository at West Point, New York. During calendar year 1968 the mints produced over 6.5 billion domestic coins for circulation, and 267 million coins for friendly foreign countries. In addition, the mints produce hundreds of national medals authorized by Congress and millions of numismatic items for sale to the public.

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